Disney's Pepper Ann

Too Cool To Be Twelve

Quality Disney Animation
30 minutes

Buena Vista International

The Coolest Girl On the Block!

Curious, smart, full of self-confidence one minute and painfully insecure the next – that's twelve-year-old PEPPER ANN. From the mind of Sue Rose, creator of the international phenomenon *Fido Dido*, this animated series follows our heroine and a unique circle of friends through that confusing, exhilarating time known as adolescence. In often hilarious fantasy sequences, the audience will see how the world looks through Pepper Ann's quirky, imaginative eyes.

Though she's not the most popular kid at Hazelnut Middle School, Pepper Ann (voiced by *E.R.*'s Kathleen Wilhoite) has a tribe of loyal pals. There's NICKY (voiced by *Ellen*'s Clea Lewis), her best friend who always makes a valiant effort to be the voice of reason; MILO, a bright kid whose "creative anarchy" has his parents wondering if he'll be a genius or a total delinquent; and romance-crazed TRINKET (voiced by *Blossom*'s Jenna von Oy) who turns into something from another planet when boys are around. Pepper Ann's MOM is a bold, colorful woman who is both a source of strength and of embarrassment. Divorced, mom has her hands full raising Pepper Ann and her infuriatingly self-assured little sister MOOSE. At school, PRINCIPAL HICKEY, voiced by Don Adams (*Get Smart*) gives Pepper Ann her first taste of dealing with authority figures.

Torn between a desire for acceptance and an irrepressible need to be herself, Pepper Ann always has a plan for winning the admiration of her peers; though her plans aren't always successful, she lands on her feet ready for the next challenge. As they struggle through adolescence, Pepper Ann and her friends learn one of the most important lessons of all – it's *cool* to be different!

- **Voiced by some of Hollywood's fastest-rising stars and some of its more established ones**
- **Explores youth-oriented themes in a way that's fun as well as educational**
- **Created and executive produced by the creator of internationally known *Fido Dido***

Buena Vista
International
350 South Buena Vista Street • Burbank, California 91521
Phone (818) 560-1000 • FAX (818) 841-3225
© Walt Disney Television

DO YOU REMEMBER
WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BE TWELVE YEARS OLD???

NO LONGER A KID, BUT NOT YET A TEENAGER...

READY TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES --
BUT NOT ALWAYS READY TO DEAL WITH THE CONSEQUENCES

WALT DISNEY TELEVISION ANIMATION PRESENTS
"PEPPER ANN" -- TOO COOL TO BE TWELVE

Would you rather go backwards or forwards in time? Just wondering. If you could only eat one food for every single meal for the next five years, what would it be? Hmmm.... If you could only see one color, what would you choose??

Mom hates it when I ask her questions like this, but I have to think about stuff. Like, can you believe our parents didn't have CD's, microwaves, or even cable TV when they were our age? Not to mention the Internet!
-- Pepper Ann

Meet Pepper Ann. A spunky, quirky twelve-year-old girl who emerges center stage to star in her own animated series, **"Pepper Ann."** Inspired by the real-life childhood memories of her creator, Sue Rose, "Pepper Ann" combines a unique style of animation with slapstick humor and a personal sensibility that kids, and adults alike, will relate to.

On an eternal quest for coolness, Pepper Ann (voiced by "E.R.'s" Kathleen Wilhoite) gives us the inside scoop on life as a 'tween -- no longer a kid, not yet a teenager. Active, confident and full of energy, she's after acceptance, unabashed adulation -- and a little local fame wouldn't hurt! At that tenuous crossroads between childhood and adulthood, Pepper Ann is at odds with both worlds, and in each hilarious episode, she awkwardly and determinedly finds and claims her own place -- and boldly goes where no girl has gone before!

(more...)

"'Pepper Ann' is a strong female role model to girls *and boys*," states Sue Rose, the series creator and executive producer. "Not only is she a *girl*, she's a kid -- a typical kid. She has the kind of energy and enthusiasm that's typical of a twelve year old. Pepper Ann's not satisfied with the answer of 'just because.' She has to find out things for herself and experience things on her own."

Riding the emotional roller coaster of adolescence, Pepper Ann can win the science fair and be teleported to the heights of coolness -- and the next second she can trip in front of everybody in the cafeteria and descend into the depths of dweeb-dom. Yet, Pepper Ann's great sense of humor, courage and irreverence see her through even the most awkward situations. Her unique and amusing outlook on life gives her the strength to laugh at herself -- and to make an ordinary situation seem so hysterical that you'll want to laugh along, too!

"Pepper Ann reminds me of myself and my girlfriends at that age. She's who we were in the seventh grade," says Wilhoite. "She has an overwhelming desire to be cool and she ultimately ends up being cool in her 'uncoolness.' That's her journey."

If Pepper Ann's world seems distorted, exaggerated, silly and weird -- that's because it is! And the magic of animation allows us to see *her* world through *her* eyes. When Pepper Ann tells her friend, Milo, that he's totally twisted, his body physically becomes twisted. If she's embarassed, she (literally) melts into a puddle and gets mopped up by the janitor. And she walks a few inches off the ground after she gets her picture in the local paper for designing the winning Dental Health Week poster. Her reflection in the window winks and gives her a thumbs up. These are not fantasies, they are Pepper Ann's reality!

"Pepper Ann's alter ego is her own best friend and her own worst enemy," comments Rose. "It appears when Pepper Ann is alone and talking to herself, saying 'Get out there and go for it. You can do it. Just show them what you got.' Then, she turns to leave and her alter ego says, 'But you're not going to wear that, are you?!' Pepper Ann's alter ego can bring her up and down in a second."

PEPPER ANN'S FAMILY/HOME SWEET HOME

Pepper Ann Pearson is the oldest child of a single parent. Her mom is a single, working mother. Pepper Ann loves and misses her Dad but feels like she fits in because divorce is so common among her classmates.

(more...)

Pepper Ann's mom, LYDIA, (voiced by April Winchell), and her daughter have the typical parent/adolescent relationship. Everything that Mom says and does is embarrassing! Everything about Mom is big, bold and colorful -- even her laugh is a little too loud and a little too long (for Pepper Ann's taste, at least). Pepper Ann knows her mom means well, but does she have to mean well in public? Though occasionally Mom can be cool, Pepper Ann would prefer not to have other people see that.

Little sister, MOOSE -- that's short for Margaret Rose -- is a tough little kid with a voice cut on gravel and it doesn't bother her a bit when people think she's Pepper Ann's *brother* on the phone. Moose (voiced by Pam Segall) is independent, self-sufficient and delightfully oblivious to what other people think. What really gets Pepper Ann is the fact that her little sister doesn't seem to idolize her at all -- she doesn't even try to mess with her stuff! Isn't this supposed to be a right of passage?!

PEPPER ANN'S PALS/FRIENDS FOREVER

Surviving the seventh grade can be traumatic unless you have a cool group of friends to hang out with. Pepper Ann isn't the most popular kid in class, but she has lots of pals, beginning with her best friends Nicky and Milo.

NICKY (voiced by "Ellen's" Clea Lewis) and Pepper Ann have been friends for as long as either one of them can remember -- and Nicky claims to remember everything, even the stuff you wish she'd forgotten! Nicky tries to be the voice of reason to Pepper Ann's more chaotic approach to life. However with a little coaxing and her little-known secret love of danger, she becomes a willing participant in even the most risky schemes.

MILO (voiced by Danny Cooksey) cultivates a unique look that's way off the fashion track -- the deliberate result of careful, time-consuming planning. Looking like you could care less is an art, after all! Milo loves to goof around -- some might call it misbehaving -- but he prefers to think of it as creative anarchy. His parents fear that if he doesn't wind up as a brilliant, creative genius, he's destined for a life as a delinquent. But, Pepper Ann loves hanging out with him. He's one of few guys she doesn't think of as a guy -- and that's a huge compliment.

TRINKET (voiced by "Blossom's" Jenna von Oy) is twelve, going on 25, and one of Pepper Ann's more exasperating friends. She's fine when she's hanging out with just Pepper Ann or Nicky, but when there's a boy anywhere in sight, she suddenly transforms into a creature from another planet. Without a doubt, CISSY (voiced by Kath Soucie) is Hazelnut's ultimate boy magnet. She's sweet, innocent and completely clueless. She speaks every sentence as if it were a question, thinks lip gloss is one of the

(more...)

four major food groups and has been referred to as Kate Moss with a lobotomy. TESSA & VANESSA (voiced by Cree Summer) are the twins who edit Hazelnut Middle School's newspaper. Constantly on the snoop for the next big scoop, the pair are inseparable best friends who always finish each other's sentences and provide a source of amusement (and trouble!) to Pepper Ann and her pals.

Hazelnut's only foreign exchange student, DIETER (voiced by Jeff Bennett), is appalled at how uncultured American kids are and has made it his mission to introduce them to the finer things in life -- like 'Klaus,' Germany's favorite jeep-driving cartoon uber-monkey. CRAIG (voiced by Bennett), an eighth grader, is the coolest kid at school. Everytime Craig speaks, the whole campus stops to listen. Needless to say, every girl in school has a crush on him! And then there's PRINCIPAL HICKEY (voiced by Don Adams), the tiny, neurotic school principal whose compulsive need to create chaos often causes him to lose sight of his role as head-of-school.

"Pepper Ann, her family and friends are very interesting characters," states Rose. "They're real and they're funny. Kids today are very savvy and can recognize smart humor. That's very important to us on this show."

"Pepper Ann" is produced by Walt Disney Television Animation. Sue Rose is Creator/Executive Producer. Sherie Pollack serves as Director. Nahnatchka Khan is Head Writer/Story Editor.

###

SUE ROSE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER/CREATOR, "PEPPER ANN,"
ON MAKING A "CARTOON WITH A CONSCIENCE"

Can you imagine: A tiny pimple that won't stop growing -- until you turn into one big zit! A neon sign attached to your forehead that perpetually flashes "Loser," and a voice (yours!) as loud as a megaphone? Sounds a little kooky -- but would you believe these images are based on real-life?? No way!! Yes way!!

"'Pepper Ann' started out, I would have to say, as a slightly autobiographical show - having once been twelve myself!" laughs Sue Rose, co-creator of Fido Dido and, now, creator and executive producer of the new series.

"The name Pepper Ann came from my business partner's dog, Pepper," she continues. "And, Ann is the middle name of just about everyone I know in the world! Pepper is a very descriptive word. It is what she is. She's a fiery redhead. She's feisty, opinionated and quirky."

An eccentric and animated character herself (who not-so-coincidentally bears a striking resemblance to her red-headed cartoon counterpart), Rose based the series on her colorfully exaggerated childhood memories and themes universal to all kids growing up.

"If Pepper Ann is 'grounded,' she imagines that every man, woman, child and fish is out having the time of their lives, while she's missing a very important activity that could possibly seal her fate for the rest of her life," Rose hastens to explain. "Her problems are the issues that kids deal with everyday. They're not earth-shattering catastrophes, but that's the way they seem to her."

Rose feels kids aren't necessarily looking for lessons, they're looking for fun. And it was her intent to create an incredibly entertaining show, but also to deliver some important messages -- "cartoons with a conscience" she calls them. So, she and her staff of writers developed plots that create and maintain the subtle balance of being funny and entertaining, while

(more...)

depicting modern-day issues in a responsible and realistic fashion.

Additionally, Rose and her team conferred with Diana Meehan, founder of the renowned Archer School for Girls and FCC consultant for the series. Meehan offered her expertise on pro-social issues facing today's pre-teen girls and was active in the series' development process by supplying notes and ideas for every final script draft.

Meehan also brought a group of 12 and 13 year-old girls from the school to meet with the "Pepper Ann" creative team. The youngsters not only brainstormed ideas, but they also read scripts from the series and viewed a rough-cut episode in order to give feedback to the show's writers.

"I always think it's very important to be responsible with the opportunities I'm given," says Rose. "And, I think the most important message that you can give a kid today is be yourself. Be who you are. Have faith in yourself -- it's not necessary to follow the crowd."

Sporting thick, black, horn-rimmed glasses and red, high-top tennis shoes, Rose's appearance is every bit as offbeat as the stream of unusual looking creatures and characters she's created. Raised in a small, rural town in upstate New York, Rose remembers doodling and drawing at a very young age. Her mother noticed and nurtured her interest in art and encouraged her to pursue her dreams. "It was important to me, growing up, to be reminded -- and to remind myself -- that I was different and it was okay to be different. I was my own person and that's who Pepper Ann is."

Before moving to New York City to pursue a career in advertising, Rose studied fine arts at the Boston Museum School and at the Hartford Art School in Conneticut. Later, while working in advertising in New York, she and her business partner created the internationally popular cartoon character, "Fido Dido," from a drawing that Rose doodled on the back of a napkin. At her partner's insistence, Rose agreed to print a batch of "Fido" t-shirts to give to friends and, before long, retailers such as Macy's and Urban Outfitters were selling the shirts in their stores.

The "Fido" character was later licensed worldwide and became hugely successful in Europe and Asia, which opened the doors for "Fido" to become the "spokescartoon" for 7-Up International. "Fido Dido" later aired for three years on CBS as a Saturday morning interstitial and has become a household name in many languages.

(more...)

Armed with more ideas and drawings, Rose came to Los Angeles in 1996 to pitch various projects, including "Pepper Ann." After receiving fantastic responses from several studios, she received a call from Disney -- and the rest is history.

"When I was growing up, I never heard anything like 'you're a girl, you can't do that.' And, I think that's one of the messages that we're trying to convey to *all* kids. If there's something you want to do -- you go for it."

###

PEPPER ANN
Episode Synopses

Episode One
ZITERELLA (001)

Pepper Ann's quest for the perfect yearbook picture is hindered by the emergence of her first pimple. This sends her on an embarrassing mission for pimple cream. With her pimple problem cured, Pepper Ann is set for a great photo, only to have it unintentionally ruined by her mother.

Episode Two
ROMEO & JULIET (002)

After learning that Craig has been cast as Romeo in the Drama Club's production of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," Pepper Ann auditions for the role of Juliet. She's disappointed to be cast in the role of the Nurse (which calls for her to wear a padded suit), but discovers that she really likes the play. When Cissy loses a contact and can't go on as Juliet opening night, it's Pepper Ann to the rescue.

FOOD BARN (003)

Pepper Ann is assigned an after-school job to further her knowledge and understanding of economics. Pepper Ann throws herself into her work at Food Barn (a bulk grocery store where biggest is best), determined to prove herself knowledgeable and to earn herself an "A."

(more...)

Episode Three

CRUNCH POD (004)

Milo is set to defend his "Crunch Pod" video game title for the fourth consecutive year in a row, but Pepper Ann accidentally beats him and gets crowned the new champ. A vicious best-friend rivalry ensues, with Nicky caught in the middle.

OLD BEST FRIEND (005)

Pepper Ann's old friend, from several summer camps ago, moves to town. Pepper Ann anticipates all the fun they'll have together, but is both disappointed and shocked to discover that they no longer have anything in common.

Episode Four

PSYCHIC MOOSE (007)

Mom doesn't think Pepper Ann and Moose are spending enough "quality time" together. After seeing Moose emerge from a psychic's tent at the fair, Pepper Ann starts to think that her little sister "knows things." Convinced that Moose is psychic, Pepper Ann starts spending a lot of time with her and discovers that she actually really likes Moose.

MEGABLADES OF GRASS (009)

Pepper Ann needs money for the newest, coolest in-line skates, and convinces Milo to open a lawn maintenance business with her. She becomes power crazed, compelled to own the right to mow every lawn in town, and loses sight of both her friendship with Milo and her goal to earn enough to buy the Megablades.

(more...)

Episode Five

THANKSGIVING DAD (006)

Thanksgiving descends once more upon the matriarchal Pearson household. Instead of just phoning, as usual, Pepper Ann thinks her Dad is going to come in person this year. As her anticipation builds, she must endure her "freak show" relatives for the whole day.

Episode Six

DOLL & CHAIN (010)

Pepper Ann and friends, ripe for a lesson in responsibility, are assigned babies (dolls), that must accompany them everywhere, for an entire weekend.

FAMILY VACATION (015)

Time again for the Pearson family vacation to "the black hole that is Lake Tammy." After hours in the car, where no one wants to do what she wants to do (play her games, sing her songs), Pepper Ann fantasizes about being on her own, having control of her life -- freedom. But when she thinks that her family has left her at a roadside truck stop, Pepper Ann realizes how much they really mean to her.

Episode Seven

SHE BLINDED ME WITH SCIENCE (013)

It's time again for the Hazelnut Middle School Science Fair. This year, Pepper Ann is committed to beating Alice Kane, her arch-rival, and winner of the fair three years in a row.

SANI-PAPER (011)

A class field trip is planned to Hazelnut's very own Sani-paper -- the world's largest supplier of toilet seat covers. Pepper Ann thinks something suspicious is going on with one of the world's most environmentally sound companies, and drags Milo on her quest to get to the truth.

(more...)

Episode Eight

UNIFORM, UNIFORMITY (014)

Principal Hickey decides to instigate a mandatory dress code -- uniforms. To make matters even worse, Mom is designing the uniforms. Pepper Ann is vehemently opposed and launches into a protest, convinced her classmates will back her up. She is wrong, however, as she discovers that everyone else actually likes the uniforms. Pepper Ann has to figure out how to maintain her individual identity.

SNOT YOUR MOTHER'S MUSIC (008)

Pepper Ann and Milo desperately want tickets to the already sold-out "Flaming Snot" concert, for which Mom just happens to have tickets. Turns out she went to college with ultra-cool Mick Snot, formerly known as not-even-close-to-cool Harry Schnitzer. Pepper Ann discovers the truth about Mick/Harry when Mom invites him to stay at their house.

Episode Nine

IN SUPPORT OF (012)

Pepper Ann is worried that she is the only one in her class who isn't yet wearing "support," so she sets out to buy her first bra.

CRUSH & BURN (016)

Gwen Mezzrow's got a crush on Milo, but Milo doesn't like her "that way." He asks Pepper Ann to cover for him and pretend to be his girlfriend. This lie leads to several other intertwined lies, and now Pepper Ann has practically everyone in town involved in a big web of deceit. Confused and exhausted by the complicated lies, Pepper Ann breaks down and confesses the truth. All others involved follow suit, including Gwen Mezzrow, who confesses that the only reason she passed a note to Milo in the first place was to make her true love, Dieter, jealous.

(more...)

Episode Ten

ENVIRON-MENTALS (017)

Pepper Ann has a deep, dark secret she doesn't want anyone to find out: Behind closed doors, Pepper Ann, Mom, and Moose dress up and perform a choreographed routine to the tune of "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain." Pepper Ann loves performing with her family, as long as no one else on earth finds out. Mom has other ideas and signs up the Pearson Family Singers to perform at the big talent show at Hazelnut's annual 'Clean-Up Lupkin Park.'

Episode Eleven

SOCCER SEASON (020)

Soccer season's starting up again in Hazelnut and it looks like they're going to continue their 14 season losing streak, until Pepper Ann comes to the rescue, replacing an injured Cissy in Center position. Pepper Ann plays extraordinarily well, beyond anyone's expectations, until the "fame" starts to go to her head.

NICKY GONE BAD (019)

Nicky Little is tired of being ultra-responsible, perfect and amazing. So she becomes Nic'kay Ð with crimped hair, purple lip gloss and an attitude. Pepper Ann is appalled. But for Nicky, it seems a lifetime of being perfect is not easily forgotten by anyone, especially teachers and adults. Nic'kay can't get into trouble no matter how hard she tries. Pepper Ann helps Nicky discover that she doesn't have to be bad and she doesn't have to be perfect, she just has to be herself.

(more...)

Episode Twelve
SKETCH 22 (018)

Pepper Ann becomes friends with the coolest eighth grader in school, Sketch, under the false pretense that she herself is an eighth grader.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN UNSUPERVISED? (021)

Dieter's 13th birthday party is going to be "unsupervised." Everyone's excited about the prospect of playing "Spin The Bottle" -- everyone except for Pepper Ann, who's worried she's going to make a complete fool of herself because she's never kissed anyone before.

Episode Thirteen
MANLY MILO (022)

Milo's convinced he's not a real guy. Pepper Ann leads him on a quest to discover what it means to be a "man."

UNUSUAL SUSPECTS (023)

The Hazelnut Middle School otter statue is missing, and Principal Hickey is lining up his "usual suspects" to help him uncover the truth.

###

PEPPER ANN'S P.O.V. (POINT OF VIEW)

A.K.A. -- A CANDID INTERVIEW WITH PEPPER ANN

Classmates Tessa & Vanessa, editors of Hazelnuts & Bolts, Hazelnut Middle School's newspaper, are given an assignment to write a weekly feature on seventh grade students. Pepper Ann is spotlighted this week. Following is an excerpt from the interview:

Q. *If you could play any instrument, what would you play?*

P.A. I would like to play the bass guitar. The bass guitar is totally cool. If you play the bass guitar, you are totally cool.

Q. *If you could change your name to anything, what would it be?*

P.A. I used to wish my name was Jennifer. 'Cause there were so many Jennifers in my class. I tried to get everyone in my family to call me Jennifer and I wanted the license plate for my bike that had "Jennifer" on it. But I guess I got over it. The two names that I like now are Rain Phoenix and Whoopi Goldberg. Pepper Ann is really OK 'cause nobody else is named that and it kind'a makes me stand out. And, now, I'm so thankful that my name is not Jennifer.

Q. *What are your favorite color high-tops?*

P.A. I mostly wear black ones, but I have red ones for special occasions. I like the green ones and blue ones, too. If I ever had to got to a wedding or a prom I would wear the glittery gold ones or maybe the shiny leather ones in black.

Q. *Which would you rather be and why -- an astronaut, detective, scientist or movie star?*

P.A. Well, If I was a movie star, I could be anything at all. In one movie I could be an astronaut and in the next I could be a scientist.

But, you know, I think that I would want to be a scientist because I could really do something major -- like find a cure for cancer or invent a window

(more...)

cleaner that attracts only butterflies to your windows. As a scientist I could do important experiments that would make me very famous -- maybe even more famous than a movie star. Yup, I would rather be a scientist.

Q. *Would you rather bike, walk or skateboard to school?*

P.A. What about roller blades?! Well, if there were no roller blades, I would definitely ride my bike. It's all about freedom and speed.

Q. *If you formed a band, what would you name it?*

P.A. The Amelia Earharts. Or, Thelma and Louise. Or, Girls Rule.

Q. *Would you rather have your Mom go to school with you for a day or would you rather dye your hair pink for a whole week?*

P.A. Aaaargh!!! Please don't make me choose. Oh well, pink hair for only one week wouldn't be soooo bad.

Q. *What do you like best about your friends and family?*

P.A. What I like best about Milo is that he's a gigantic weirdo. Nicky, well, I don't have to be cool or smart or popular around Nicky. I can just be me. Moose, my little sister, doesn't pay attention to rules. She does what she wants. I guess you could say that she's independent, or maybe she's just a space cadet. And, the best thing about Mom is that she loves me a whole lot.

###

ABOUT THE VOICES

KATHLEEN WILHOITE (Pepper Ann) With a multi-faceted career in the entertainment industry, Kathleen Wilhoite juggles the roles of singer/songwriter, television, film, and voiceover actress.

On camera, fans will recognize the talented performer from network television's "E.R.," where she portrayed the recurring role of Chloe, the sister to Sherry Stringfield's character.

As a musician, Wilhoite recently released her first album, "Pitch Like A Girl," in which she performs lead vocals. Additionally, she wrote the music and lyrics for each song.

While it was always her dream to be an actress and musician, Wilhoite got into the field of voiceover for animation quite by accident. While appearing on "The Johnny Carson Show" to promote an upcoming film, she was discovered by Cathy Guisewite, the creator of the popular comic strip, "Cathy." Guisewite contacted her agent and asked Wilhoite to audition for the part of "Cathy" for two television specials. Her voiceover work on "Cathy" then led to additional voiceover work for commercials.

Later, Walt Disney Television Animation voice director, Jamie Thomason, saw Wilhoite on "E.R." and asked her to audition for the role of "Pepper Ann." Needless to say, she's now added voiceover acting to her long list of accomplishments within the entertainment industry.

Wilhoite grew up in Santa Barbara, California where she performed in school plays and musicals and later became active in community theatre. By the time she was 18 years old, she had a number of productions under her belt and decided to move to Los Angeles to enroll in USC's School of Drama. After a friend's agent suggested she audition for a small film role, she began getting work and decided to concentrate on her acting.

Among her numerous film credits are "Getting Even With Dad," "The Color Of Night," "Fire In The Sky," "Lorenzo's Oil" and "Angel Heart," to name a few. Her television credits include "Mad About You," "L.A. Law," "Twin Peaks," "Cop Rock," "Cagney and Lacey," "Quantum Leap" and "The Tracy Ullman Show," among many others. She's also appeared in numerous specials, mini-series and movies-of-the-week including "Broken Promises," "Love Kills," "Life From Death Row," "Susan," "Single Bars, Single Women" and "Flight 90: Disaster On The Potomac."

(more...)

When she's not performing, Wilhoite enjoys spending time with her husband and son, Jimmy-Ray, who's nearly two-years-old.

CLEA LEWIS (Nicky) Television audiences will recognize Clea Lewis as Ellen Morgan's hysterically ingratiating neighbor from hell on the ABC comedy series, "Ellen."

Born and raised in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, Lewis' acted in numerous school productions and performed at the Cleveland Playhouse throughout her childhood. She later attended Brown University where she graduated with a B.A. in Theatre. To enrich her curriculum, she studied her junior year in London at the prestigious Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and at the London Academy of Music and Drama.

After graduation, Lewis studied improvisation at Chicago's Second City's acclaimed training program. She also performed at the renowned Wisdom Bridge and Body Politic Theatres. Three years later she moved to San Diego to pursue a Master of Fine Arts degree at UCSD. After completing her first year, she spent the summer in Los Angeles where work quickly came her way. Needless to say, Clea decided to stick to her acting full-time.

Lewis' television credits include "Flying Blind," "Doogie Howser, M.D.," "Mad About You," "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air," and the pilot of "Friends," among others. Her feature film credits include "Scotch & Milk," an independent film in which she played the female lead, "Hero," with Andy Garcia, "The Rich Man's Wife," and "Diabolique," opposite Sharon Stone, Isabella Adjani and Chazz Palminteri.

DANNY COOKSEY (Milo) At 21 years old, Cooksey is an accomplished actor both on and off the screen.

Cooksey and his mother moved to Los Angeles from Oklahoma City when he was five years old so he could pursue a career in country music. When an agent saw his musical act, he was called to audition for the long running television series, "Diff'rent Strokes," where he made his acting debut as Sam, the step brother to Gary Coleman's character. After three years as a series regular, he moved on to "The Cavanaugh's" where he was a series regular for the following three years.

Cooksey's unique, gravel-cut voice later led him into voiceover acting where his credits include "Super Ted," "Ren & Stimpy," "Tiny Toon Adventures," and Disney's "101 Dalmatians: The Series," among others.

When he's not in the recording studio for animation, he's singing lead vocals with his band, "Lucy's Milk."

(more...)

JENNA VON OY (Trinket) starred five years on the popular series "Blossom," as Blossom's fashionable, loquacious best friend, Six LeMeure.

von Oy made her acting debut at age five as Molly in a regional production of "Annie" and has since garnered numerous credits in television, theater and feature films. Her motion picture debut was in the Academy Award-winning film "Born on the Fourth of July," in which she portrayed Suzanne, the older sister of Tom Cruise's child character.

Her more recent television credits include the series "Martin," and made for television movies "She Cried No" and "Dying To Belong."

APRIL WINCHELL (Mom) has a diverse career in the entertainment industry. Her long list of television and film voice-over credits include "The Simpsons" and Disney's animated series "Recess," "101 Dalmatians: The Series," "Goof Troop," "Jungle Cubs" and "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," among many others. Winchell was a regular on her father's classic television programs, "The Paul Winchell Show" and "Winchell-Mahoney Time," and also has appeared on "The Tonight Show."

On stage, Winchell has starred as Ado Annie in "Oklahoma!" at the Grand Ol' Opry in Nashville, and has toured with numerous other musicals. She also has appeared as a featured performer at many clubs including "The Comedy Store," "The Improv" and "The Groundlings." Winchell has written award-winning radio spots and currently is developing a network sitcom and a variety show.

DON ADAMS (Principal Hickey) Blessed with a gift for mimicry, Don Adams tried at first to carve out a career as a professional artist while taking outside jobs to support his family, but response was minimal, and he soon became involved in the cartograhic and engineering business. In 1954, he auditioned on a whim for Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts and was on his way.

After numerous nightclub performances, and a stint as a regular on "The Perry Como Show," he segued into the role of the inept house detective Byron Glick on "The Bill Dana Show." The "spy cycle" of 1965 enabled him to refine his Glick character into the magnificently self-confident, but monumentally inept, secret agent Maxwell Smart on the hit TV series "Get Smart." The successful sitcom ran for five years, providing Adams a conduit for his beloved movie parodies and the opportunity to direct.

After "Get Smart," Adams starred in the series "The Partners," and guest starred in a variety of television shows including "The Love Boat." Off screen, he created the voice behind cartoon's bionic blockhead, "Inspector Gadget."

(more...)

PAM SEGALL (Moose) is an accomplished film, television and theatre actress. Among her many projects, she recently provided voices for Disney's "Recess," and "101 Dalmatians: The Series."

She has also been featured in a variety of popular films such as "Bed of Roses," "Ford Fairlane," "After Midnight," "Say Anything," "Grease 2" and most recently in "Sgt. Bilko" with Steve Martin, "Pulp Fiction" and "Eat Your Heart Out." She also has appeared in several movies of the week including "A Family Again," "Leftovers," "Pleasures" and "The Fantastic World of DC Collins."

Segall's upbeat persona has won her numerous roles in such television favorites as "Murder One," "Tracey Takes On...," "The Heights," "Down the Shore," "Lifestories," "21 Jump Street," "Star Trek-The Next Generation," "Wiseguy" and "Relativity." A recipient of several theatre awards, Segall has proven herself as an oustanding actress. She has appeared in several theatre productions including "Heartbreak Help," Will and Co.'s production of "Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC), "Pot Roast," "Greetings from Venice Beach," "Cup of Joe," "Waking Jimmy Rizzo" and "Backstreet."

KATH SOUCIE (Cissy) is one of the top voice talents in Hollywood, beginning her career as an on-camera actress with featured roles in various episodic series and telefilms. Since then, she has lent her voice to hundreds of radio and television commercials including a Cleo-winning spot for Chiquita Grapefruit and campaigns for Reebok, McDonald's, and many more.

Soucie's natural acting ability and versatility have led to regular roles in countless animated children's series including the Emmy Award-winning shows "Captain Planet" and "Rugrats," as well as the Emmy-nominated "Tiny Toons Adventures," "The Real Ghostbusters" and "Darkwing Duck." She voices as a series regular on "101 Dalmatians: The Series," "Jungle Cubs," "Quack Pack," "Casper," "Sinbad," "Book of Virtues," "Dexter's Lab," "Spawn," "Gargoyles," "Widget," "The Little Mermaid," "The Pink Panther," "Phantom," "Beethoven," "Earthworm Jim" and "Sonic the Hedgehog."

Her most recent projects include the world's first-ever Internet comic book for Microsoft, and voice-over work in the Michael Jordan feature film "Space Jam."

###

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS

SUE ROSE (Creator/Executive Producer) is often referred to as a real-life cartoon character, so it's only natural that she has created a stream of unusual looking creatures and personalities for the world to share.

Before joining Walt Disney Television Animation with "Pepper Ann" in 1996, Rose spent five years as the designer and co-creator for "Fido Dido," the spokescartoon for 7-Up International, which later aired for three years on CBS as a Saturday morning interstitial. Through worldwide licensing, "Fido Dido" has become a household name in many languages.

It was the popular appeal of "Fido" that took Rose out of the world of advertising where she served as Senior Art Director for J. Walter Thompson. In addition to "Pepper Ann" and "Fido Dido," Rose has created several cartoon collages for a series to be called "Family Values," and drawn commercial illustrations for magazines and books, including "My Point and I Do Have One," by Ellen Degeneres.

She studied fine arts at the Hartford Art School and the Boston Museum School and currently commutes between Los Angeles and New York.

SHERIE POLLACK (Director) made her decision to become an animator when she was eleven years old. Torn between her love for acting, zoology and drawing, Pollack concentrated on her artwork and later attended Washington University in St. Louis where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. While earning her undergraduate degree, she worked as a zookeeper at the St. Louis Zoo.

Upon graduation, she joined J. Walter Thompson Advertising in Chicago as Art Director. Later, armed with a flip animation book and a desire to work in animation, she left Chicago for Zagreb (in the former Yugoslavia) and was hired as an artist on the film "Fearless John," produced by Penn Films.

(more...)

When production wrapped, Pollack relocated to Los Angeles, and began animating for commercials and television. She entered UCLA's School of Cinema, while working as an artist on "The Simpsons," and "Duckman." Her student film "N'est Pas" won several film festival awards, including 1st Place at the Australian Film Festival and the Cine Eagle for Animation.

Pollack's writing credits include "Itsy Bitsy Spider," "America's Funniest Home Videos," "HBO's Fairytales for Every Child," and Disney's "Toy Story" web site, among others.

NAHNATCHKA KHAN (Head Writer/Story Editor) moved from Honolulu, Hawaii to Los Angeles to attend the University of Southern California's School of Cinema-Television. Upon graduation, she worked as a film and television extra and taught tennis lessons while she pursued her career in writing, but after several bounced checks, she quickly accepted a position in development at Walt Disney Television Animation.

During her year-and-a-half in development, Khan worked on numerous series including "Jungle Cubs," "Mighty Ducks" and "Nightmare Ned," among others. With "Pepper Ann," she segued into the role of Head Writer/Story Editor.

###